

10250 - ANT* K105: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

MWF. 10:00am - 10:50am Class Room # D224 Spring 2014

Instructor: Gideon Ampeire

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Course Description:

This is an introductory course to Cultural Anthropology. The course explores various customs, traditions, and forms of social organizations from a global perspective. Topics include beliefs and religious system, linguistics, trade and economic systems, arts, kinship systems, marriage and family systems, technology, and changes. Gender, race, and ethnic identity are examined as well as the role of society in defining these terms. Using ethnographic case studies, this course examines how anthropological methods and theory are applied to the study of human culture.

Goals and objectives of the course:

1. Learn about the world's cultures and how they are changing
2. Understand what cultural anthropologists do in terms of their research and careers
3. Understand "our" role in the world and "our" responsibilities as citizens of a global world

Course book at Folletts Bookstore at Three Rivers:

Cultural Anthropology by Barbara Miller, 7th edition, Allyn & Bacon, Incorporated, 2013, ISBN: 9780205260010

Requirements and Distribution of Grades:

The lectures and readings in this course are organized into three major sections:

1. **Introducing cultural anthropology:** introductory material about anthropology, cultural anthropology, and culture (Chapter 1); the evolution of human culture (Chapter 2); research methods (Chapter 3); livelihood (Chapter 4); consumption and exchange (Chapter 5); and reproduction and the human life cycle (Chapter 6).
2. **Cultural foundations:** health (Chapter 7); kinship and domestic life (Chapter 8); social organization and social stratification (Chapter 9); power, politics, and social order (Chapter 10).
3. **Symbolic systems and cultural change:** communication (Chapter 11); religion (Chapter 12); expressive culture (Chapter 13); migration (Chapter 14); and international development (chapter 15).

Tests: After each of the sections, there will be a test on the material covered in that section. There will be three multiple choice test each comprising **20%** of the final grade. There is no cumulative exam at the end of term.

Writing assignment 20%: I will assign a research/writing project of about three - five double spaced pages. Students can choose a topic of their own interest. **Due 03/26**

Class Attendance and Class Participation: 20%:

Your success in this course is dependent upon regular attendance and participation in class. I will take attendance for each class session. You are also expected to complete all required readings before class.

Grading Scale:

A = 94% C+=77% F = 59%

A- = 90% C = 75%

B+ = 87% C- = 70%

B = 85% D+ = 67%

B- = 80% D = 65%

D+ = 67% D- = 60%

Academic honesty policy at Three Rivers:

“Academic integrity is essential to a useful education. Failure to act with academic integrity severely limits a person’s ability to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Furthermore, academic dishonesty erodes the legitimacy of every degree awarded by the College. In this class and in the course of your academic career, present only your own best work; clearly document the sources of the material you use from others; and act at all times with honor”.

Writing Center Contacts:

Three Rivers Community College Writing Center

574 New London Turnpike

Norwich, Connecticut 06360

Phone: (860) 892-5713 or (860) 892-5769

E-mail: TRWritingCenter@trcc.commnet.edu

Learning Disability Resources:

Assistance - Learning Disabilities Contact

Chris Scarborough - Learning Disabilities Specialist

Phone: 860 892 5751

E-mail: cscarborough@trcc.commnet.edu

If you have a disability that may affect your progress in this course, please meet with a Disability Service Provider (DSP) as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations cannot be provided until you provide written authorization from a DSP.

Course Outline

Welcome to Cultural Anthropology - ANT* K105

Review Course & Course Book

Week 1. Chapter 01: Anthropology and the Study of Culture

Introducing Anthropology’s four fields, Introducing Cultural Anthropology, Distinctive Features of Cultural Anthropology

Week 2. Chapter 02: The Evolution of Humanity and Culture

Nonhuman Primates and the Roots of Human Culture, Hominin Evolution to Modern Humans, The Neolithic Revolution and the Emergence of Cities and States

Week 3. Chapter 03: Researching Culture

Changing Research Methods, Doing Fieldwork in Cultural Anthropology, Urgent Issues in Cultural Anthropology Research

Week 4. Chapter 04: Making a Living

Culture and Economic Systems, Making a Living: Five Modes of Livelihood, Changing Livelihoods.

Week 5. Chapter 05: Consumption and Exchange

Culture and Consumption, Culture and Exchange, Changing Patterns of Consumption and Exchange

Week 6. Chapter 06: Reproduction and Human Development

Modes of Reproduction, Culture and Fertility, Personality and the Life Cycle

Test # 1

Week 7. Chapter 07: Disease, Illness, and Healing

Ethnomedicine, Three Theoretical Approaches, Globalization and Change.

Week 8. Chapter 08: Kinship and Domestic Life

How Cultures Create Kinship, Households and Domestic Life, Changing Kinship and Household Dynamics

Week 9. Chapter 09: Social Groups and Social Stratification

Social Groups, Social Stratification, Civil Society

Week 10. Chapter 10: Power, Politics, and Social Order

Public Power: Political Organization, and Leadership, Social Order and Social Conflict, Changing Public Power Relations

Test # 2

Week 11. Chapter 11: Communication

The Varieties of Human Communication, Language, Diversity, and Inequality, Language and Communication Change

Week 12. Chapter 12: Religion

Religion in Comparative Perspective, World Religions and Local Variations

Week 13. Chapter 13: Expressive Culture

Art and Culture, Play, Leisure, and Culture, Change in Expressive Culture

Week 14. Chapter 14: People on the Move

Categories of Migration, The New Immigrants to the United States and Canada, Migration Policies and Programs in a Globalizing World

Week 15. Chapter 15: People Defining Development

Defining Development and Approaches to It, Development, Indigenous People and Women, Urgent Issues in Development

Test # 3